

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A tool comprising:

a housing;

a motor within the housing adapted to actuate an output member of the tool; and

a gripping portion adapted to be engaged by a hand of a user of the tool and comprising:

at least one blister pack comprising respective first and second flexible sheets defining at least one gel-containing chamber therebetween, wherein said at least one gel-containing chamber contains a vibration damping gel material and said first and second sheets are sealed to each other at the periphery of the at least one said gel-containing chamber; and

at least one clamping member for clamping said at least one blister pack to said housing, said at least one clamping member having at least one aperture therethrough such that said at least one gel-containing chamber protrudes, in use, through a respective said at least one aperture and substantially none of said vibration damping gel is located, in use, between said clamping member and the housing and said clamping member including a fastening mechanism for securing said clamping

member with said housing for covering a portion of said housing and said clamping member ~~functioning as~~ providing a surface the housing adjacent said at least one blister pack.

13. (Original) A tool according to claim 12, wherein said gripping portion has an outer surface including at least one material of higher coefficient of friction than the material of the housing of the tool.

14. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising a housing having a handle and a motor to actuate an output member of the tool, said handle comprising a gripping portion and a chamber enclosing a gel material extending outwardly from said gripping portion, said chamber formed from a pair of flexible sheets, said gel-containing chamber contains a vibration damping gel material and said first and second sheets are sealed to each other at the periphery of the gel-containing chamber, said gripping portion surrounding said chamber and clamping said chamber and said flexible sheets in said handle ~~adjacent said gripping portion,~~ such that said gel-containing chamber protrudes, in use, from said gripping portion and substantially none of said vibration damping gel is located, in use, between said gripping portion and the housing, a fastener mechanism for securing said gripping portion ~~and~~ to said handle such that said chamber is disposed relative to the gripping portion and said chamber positioned on said gripping portion for enabling parts of the user's hand, such as fingers, to contact the gripping portion and other parts, such as palm or heel, to contact the chamber for providing a dampening function for the user such that both the gripping portion, which ~~acts as a housing~~

provides a surface adjacent the chamber, and the chamber are simultaneously gripped during operation of the tool.

15. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 14, said gripping portion comprising a material which is relatively hard as compared to said gel material.

16. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 14, said handle further comprising a cover piece made of a material which is relatively hard as compared to said gel material, said cover piece including an aperture through which said chamber protrudes, said cover piece forming at least a part of said gripping portion of said handle at the location of said cover piece.

17. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 16, said chamber formed as a blister pack assembly including said gel material enclosed between upper and lower layers of flexible film, said blister pack assembly retained on said handle by said cover piece.

18. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 17, said handle defining a recess, said blister pack assembly disposed in said recess.

19. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 17 further comprising a flexible sheet, said flexible sheet disposed between said blister pack and said cover piece and having a protrusion extending through said aperture and accommodating said chamber.

20. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 16 including a second said chamber enclosing a gel material, said two chambers of gel material discrete from each other, said cover piece having two apertures, each said chamber protruding through one of said apertures.

21. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 16, said chamber and said cover piece each having a curved outer surface.

22. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 16, said handle gripping portion including a region which does not include said cover piece, said region being curved, said cover piece having a curved outer surface which substantially merges into said curved region.

23. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 14, said chamber formed as a blister pack assembly including said gel material enclosed between upper and lower layers of flexible film.

24. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 23, said chamber and said handle gripping portion each having a curved outer surface.

25. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 14, said tool comprising a drill and said handle comprising a drill handle, said gripping portion comprising opposite side surfaces of said drill handle, said chamber comprising two said chambers discrete from each other, one said chamber extending outwardly from each said side surface.

Claims 26-32 (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising:

a housing having a handle;

a motor positioned in said housing, said motor to actuate an output member of the tool;

a pair of flexible sheets defining a chamber enclosing a gel material, said gel-containing chamber contains a vibration damping gel material and said pair of flexible sheets are sealed to each other at the periphery of the gel-containing chamber, said pair of flexible sheets disposed on said handle;

and a cover piece made of a material which is relatively hard as compared to said gel material, said cover piece disposed on said handle for clamping said flexible

sheets with said housing, said cover piece including an aperture through which said chamber protrudes and substantially none of said vibration damping gel is located, in use, between said cover piece and the handle and said cover piece including a fastening mechanism for securing said cover piece with said housing for covering a portion of said housing and said cover piece ~~functioning as the housing~~ providing a surface adjacent said chamber.

34. (Original) The power tool recited in claim 33, wherein said chamber is formed in a respective blister pack.

35. (Currently Amended) A power drill comprising:

a main body;

a handle having opposite side surfaces each defining a gripping region;

two chambers encapsulating a gel material, each said chamber formed from a pair of flexible sheets, said two gel-containing chambers contain a vibration damping gel material and each pair of flexible sheets are sealed to each other at the periphery of the gel-containing chamber, one said chamber protruding outwardly from said gripping region of each said opposite side surface, said chambers disceet from each other; and

said drill further comprising two cover pieces having an aperture therethrough such that said gel-containing chambers protrude, in use, through a respective aperture and substantially none of said vibration damping gel is located, in

use, between said respective cover piece and the handle and a fastening mechanism for securing said cover pieces to said handle, one said cover piece disposed on each said opposite side surface clamping said flexible sheets with said handle, said cover piece defining at least a portion of the gripping region of the handle at the locations of said cover pieces, each said chamber protruding through one said aperture.

36. (Original) The drill recited in claim 35 comprising four said chambers encapsulating a gel material, two of said chambers disposed to protrude from each said gripping region, each of said chambers discrete from each other.

Claims 37-42 (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising:

a housing having a handle;

a motor to actuate an output member of the power tool; wherein, said handle comprises a gel material and a region of material which is relatively hard as compared to said gel material, said gel material ~~including~~ surrounded by a pair of flexible sheets defining a chamber, said gel-containing chamber contains a vibration damping gel material and said pair of sheets are sealed to each other at the periphery of the gel-containing chamber, said region disposed about said gel material and clamping said flexible sheets with said handle, said region fastened with said handle such that said region defines the outer surface of said handle at the location of said region and said gel material protrudes outwardly through an aperture formed in said region, such that substantially none of said vibration damping gel is located, in use, between said region and the handle.

44. (Previously Presented) The power tool recited in claim 43, said handle comprising a base, said region comprising a cover piece disposed on said base and retaining said gel material on said base, said aperture formed in said cover piece.

45. (Previously Presented) The power tool recited in claim 43, said gel material enclosed in a chamber formed between upper and lower layers of flexible film.